



## RECRUITMENT BULLETIN

### FEDERAL CAREER INTERN PROGRAM

<b>Announcement Number:</b>	03-800 Intern
<b>Title:</b>	<b>ENGINEER (General and Biomedical)</b>
<b>Pay Plan, Series:</b>	GS-801 and GS-858
<b>Grade:</b>	Multiple Grades (GS-5, GS-7 or GS-9)
<b>Opening Date:</b>	March 17, 2003
<b>Closing Date:</b>	May 23, 2003
<b>Location:</b>	VA Palo Alto Health Care System, Palo Alto, California
<b>Who May Apply:</b>	Any U. S. Citizen
<b>Duties:</b>	<p>The candidate will enter a training program in preparation for a career as a Facilities Management or Biomedical/Clinical Engineer in the Veterans Health Administration.</p> <p>The General Engineer candidate will learn about all facets of Facilities Management and Engineering in a health care environment, including design of facilities and systems, management of maintenance and operations, management of construction projects, contracting, and special building and utility system requirements and standards for health care facilities.</p> <p>The Biomedical Engineering candidate will learn various aspects of technology management, management of maintenance and repair activities, and contracting, as well as special code requirements and accreditation standards. The candidate will also learn about specific equipment and technologies used in health care.</p> <p>Both the General and Biomedical Engineer Interns will be exposed to various aspects of health care system administration, including budgeting, contracting, finance, personnel management, etc. Upon completion of approximately one year of training, the candidate should be prepared for a position as a facilities engineer or clinical engineer at VA Palo Alto Health Care System or another VA facility.</p>
<b>How to Apply:</b>	<p>Submit all forms and documents required to:</p> <p>VA Palo Alto Health Care System  Human Resources Management Service (05A)  3801 Miranda Ave.  Palo Alto, CA 94304-1290  Attn: Susan Astorga, #03-800/Intern</p>
<b>Basic Qualifications:</b>	<p>A. Degree: <u>professional engineering</u>. To be acceptable, the curriculum must: (1) be in a school of engineering with at least one curriculum accredited by the Accreditation Board for Engineering and Technology (ABET) as a professional engineering curriculum; or (2) include differential and integral calculus and courses (more advanced than first-year physics and chemistry) in five of the following seven areas of engineering science or physics: (a) statics, dynamics; (b) strength of materials (stress-strain relationships); (c) fluid mechanics, hydraulics; (d) thermodynamics; (e) electrical fields and circuits; (f) nature and properties of materials (relating particle and aggregate structure to properties); and (g) any other comparable area of fundamental engineering science or physics, such as optics, heat transfer, soil mechanics, or electronics; <b>OR</b></p> <p>B. Combination of education and experience--college-level education, training, and/or technical experience that furnished (1) a thorough knowledge of the physical and mathematical sciences underlying professional engineering, and (2) a good understanding, both theoretical and practical of the engineering sciences and techniques and their</p>

	<p>applications to one of the branches of engineering. The adequacy of such background must be demonstrated by one of the following:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. <u>Professional registration</u>--Current registration as a professional engineer by any State, the District of Columbia, Guam, or Puerto Rico. Absent other means of qualifying under this standard, those applicants who achieved such registration by means other than written test (e.g., State grandfather or eminence provisions) are eligible only for positions that are within or closely related to the specialty field of their registration. For example, an applicant who attains registration through a State Board's eminence provision as a manufacturing engineer typically would be rated eligible only for manufacturing engineering positions.</li> <li>2. <u>Written Test</u>- Evidence of having successfully passed the Engineer-in-Training (EIT) examination, or the written test required for professional registration, which is administered by the Boards of Engineering Examiners in the various States, the District of Columbia, Guam, and Puerto Rico. Applicants who have passed the EIT examination and have completed all the requirements for either (a) a bachelor's degree in engineering technology (BET) from an accredited college of university that included 60 semester hours of courses in the physical, mathematical, and engineering sciences, or (b) a BET from a program accredited by the Accreditation Board for Engineering and Technology (ABET) may be rated eligible for certain engineering positions at GS-5. Eligibility is limited to positions that are within or closely related to the specialty field of the engineering technology program. Applicants for positions that involve highly technical research, development, or similar functions requiring an advanced level of competence in basic science must meet the basic requirements in paragraph A. Because of the diversity in kind and quality of BET programs, graduates of other BET programs are required to complete at least 1 year of additional education or highly technical work experience of such nature as to provide reasonable assurance of the possession of the knowledge, skills, and abilities required for professional engineering competence. The adequacy of this background must be demonstrated by passing the EIT examination.</li> <li>3. <u>Specified academic courses</u>--Successful completion of at least 60 semester hours or 90 quarter hours of courses in the physical, mathematical, and engineering sciences and in engineering that included the courses specified in the basic requirements. The courses must be fully acceptable toward meeting the requirements of a professional engineering curriculum as described in paragraph A.</li> <li>4. <u>Related curriculum</u>--Successful completion of a curriculum leading to a bachelor's degree in engineering technology or in an appropriate professional field, e.g., physics, chemistry, architecture, computer science, mathematics, hydrology, or geology, may be accepted in lieu of a degree in engineering, provided the applicant has had at least 1 year of professional engineering experience acquired under professional engineering supervision and guidance. Ordinarily there should be either an established plan of intensive training to develop professional engineering competence, or several years of prior professional engineering-type experience, e.g., in interdisciplinary positions. (The above examples of related curricula are not all-inclusive.)</li> </ol> <p>All eligibility and qualifications requirements <b><u>must</u></b> be completed at the end of the academic school year.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b><u>GS-5</u></b> - must have the basic qualifications stated above;</li> <li>• <b><u>GS-7</u></b> - Superior academic achievement at the baccalaureate level in a professional engineering curriculum <u>OR</u> one year of specialized experience equivalent to the next lower grade level of professional engineering experience;</li> <li>• <b><u>GS-9</u></b> - Masters degree in engineering <u>OR</u> one year of specialized experience equivalent to the next lower level of professional engineering experience.</li> <li>• Substitute education for experience as permitted by OPM Qualification Standards.</li> </ul> <p><b>Specialized Experience:</b> <i>In addition to meeting the basic requirements above, one year of specialized experience equivalent to the next lower grade level in the normal line of progression is qualifying for positions at grades GS-7 and GS-9. Specialized experience must have equipped the applicant with the particular knowledge, skills, and abilities to perform successfully the duties of the position to be filled.</i></p>
<p><b>Knowledge, Skills, and Abilities:</b></p>	<p>To be determined well-qualified candidates must possess skills that are directly related to the duties of the job. The following elements should be addressed within your description of duties in your work/academic experience on your application/resume:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Knowledge of the subject matter pertinent to the position.</li> <li>2. Technical skill to perform the duties of the position.</li> <li>3. Ability to communicate (both orally and in writing) the technical knowledge of the position.</li> <li>4.</li> </ol>

<b>Evaluation Method:</b>	<p>Upon meeting the above basic qualifications, "<u>Qualified</u>" candidates will be placed on a certificate according to the following preference categories:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Compensable disabled veterans;</li> <li>2. Other 10-point preference eligibles;</li> <li>3. 5-point preference eligibles;</li> <li>4. Non-preference eligibles.</li> </ol>
<b>Other Pertinent Information:</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Major tertiary referral center with three hospital-based divisions serving the VA Sierra Pacific Network (VISN 21). <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>❖ Palo Alto Division is home to one of the most sophisticated tertiary care centers in the Veterans Health Administration (VHA). All acute care, acute inpatient psychiatry, spinal cord injured, rehabilitation medicine, blind rehabilitation and hospice services.</li> <li>❖ Menlo Park Division, located seven miles to the North, provides both inpatient and outpatient comprehensive domiciliary care, mental health, Post Traumatic Stress Disorder and long-term geriatric care.</li> <li>❖ Livermore Division, located forty miles East of Palo Alto, provides sub-acute and geriatric inpatient services as well as primary, subspecialty and ancillary outpatient services.</li> </ul> </li> <li>• Candidate will be in training through a <b><u>full-time paid position</u></b> under an experienced professional in the targeted field.</li> <li>• <b><u>Two-year training experience</u></b> that will prepare candidate to work for the VHA. Successful completion of the two-year program you <b><u>may apply</u></b> or may be <b><u>placed non-competitively</u></b> in a VHA position.</li> </ul>
<b>Forms Required:</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• OF-612, Application for Federal Employment;</li> <li>• OF-306, Declaration of Federal Employment;</li> <li>• College Transcripts;</li> <li>• If applicable – DD-214, Military Discharge Documentation (claiming veterans preference)</li> <li>• If applicable - SF-15, Application for 10-point Veteran Preference (claiming 10-points you must submit this form <u>and</u> the required documentation specified on the reverse of the of SF-15)</li> </ul> <p>Applications are available on our website: <a href="http://www.palo-alto.med.va.gov">http://www.palo-alto.med.va.gov</a> or you may call (650) 858-3951.</p>
<b>Pre-employment Requirements:</b>	<p>Candidate may be required to obtain a security clearance, and meet all certification requirements (depending on the position to be filled) prior to appointment. Some positions may require successful completion of a physical examination (including tuberculin (TB) skin screen test), agility test, and/or pre-employment drug test. Candidates who meet one or more of these employment conditions before appointment will receive a tentative offer of employment. An offer of employment may be rescinded if the candidate fails to report to any of the scheduled appointments, fails the medical/TB/agility/drug test, lacks the certification requirements, or is unable to obtain a security clearance. Incumbents of drug testing designated positions will be subject to random testing. Drug test results will be provided to the employing facility.</p>
<b>Notes:</b>	<p><b><u>Promotion potential</u></b> - If applicable, the candidate may be non-competitively promoted to the next grade level without further competition provided they demonstrate satisfactory performance, meet applicable administrative requirements, and there is sufficient work at the higher grade level during the 2 year training program. Upon completion of the 2 year training program, candidate may be placed at grades GS-11 or GS-12 positions at the assigned VA Facility.</p> <p><b><u>Educational Opportunities</u></b> – Extensive library resources, on-site workshops and seminars, etc. May be eligible for tuition support for job-related courses, Employee Incentive Scholarship Program and Education Debt Reduction Program.</p> <p><b><u>Direct Deposit/Electronic Funds Transfer</u></b> – It is a policy of the Department of Veterans Affairs to require new employees to receive Federal wage and salary payment through Direct Deposit/Electronic Funds Transfer. On the first day of duty, new employees must bring their Social Security Card/Number, photographic identification card, and information regarding their financial institution.</p> <p><b><u>Statement of Understanding</u></b> – Candidate will be required to sign VHA Technical Career Field Program Agreement and Mobility Agreement.</p>
<p align="center"><b><u>THE DEPARTMENT OF VETERANS AFFAIRS IS AN EQUAL OPPORTUNITY EMPLOYER</u></b></p> <p align="center">All applicants receive consideration without regard to race, religion, color, national origin, non-disqualifying mental or physical disability, age (with authorized exceptions), sex, political affiliation, or any other non-merit factor.</p>	